The Bible and Daily Living

Our promised land

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Reaching For Our Promised Land
Lesson for June 14, 1981
Bible Study Passage: Deuteronomy 1:19-31
Introduction

Most of us know the painful feeling of not reaching some "promised land" we've struggled to enter. Our knowledge of the Old Testament tells us that Moses was not permitted to enter the new land God promised the Hebrew people because of his disobedience. He acted foolishly and was denied entrance to the land he had journeyed so long and far to possess. He could only view it from a distant mountaintop.

How often that happens to modern pilgrims. We are sometimes painfully aware that some foolish action on our part may deny us the "promised land" we so desperately want. Disobedience and fool-hearted actions may keep us from the goals and desires we have for life.

So close yet so far. That pretty well sums it up for some folks. They almost "reach a star" they have sought after for so long, only to lose it at the last moment because they acted foolishly or became disobedient to their "high calling."

A Promising Land [1:19-21]

Forty years is a long time to wander in the wastelands of the Sinai Desert. The Israelites could have possessed their new "promised land" within a few weeks after leaving Egypt. After all, the journey from Egypt to Canaan was relatively short. Their jorney was considerably lengthened, however, due to the disobedient actions of the people.

We, too, may wander through wastelands because we act disobediently in response to God's demands upon us. We sometimes choose to wollow in our wasteland when we could be reaping the benefits of the "promised land."

Unbelief Can Be Disastrous [Deut. 1:22-26]

Human nature is strange at times, that is, we may have the facts in hand but still choose wrongly. This happened with the Israelites when they reached the borders of Canaan.

To make sure this new land was safe to enter, the Israelites sent in some spies to determine if the land would support them. They wondered also about the inhabitants of this new land and whether they would be friendly.

The spies returned with samples of fruit and good reports, but some of the spies painted a gloomy picture of the people who inhabited the land. Thus, the Israelites were afraid to enter Canaan even though God had promised they would triumph.

We've been there, haven't we? We know that God promises certain things but because of fear we choose not to enter the "lands of goodness" that await us. Fear keeps many a person from taking those steps that will add joy and meaning to life. Sometimes the giants we face in life may not be as big or as strong as we at first think.

The Price of Disobedience [Deut. 1:27-31]

Some choices and decisions we make are costly. At times we pay a steep price for making choices we know deep down are wrong for us. Fear keeps us from going foreward and disobedience towards God can cause us much pain.

Moses was an able leader. Because of his disobedience he would not enter the new land God had for the Hebrew people. Moses could have soured on life and become bitter over God's refusal to allow him entrance. But Moses chose to encourage the people to enter by refreshing their memories concerning God's past, present and future provisions. The people still did not turst but sought to handle the inhabitants of Canaan their way. They suffered defeat in an attempt to ,right their past disobedience. They lost a great deal when they could have enjoyed so much. Disobedience brings with it a sense of deep misgiving. Fortunately, however God's promise to the Israelites remained firm and the land was there whenever they were ready to go in faith. That's good news for us, too.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP).

The Pastor Speaks

By P. EDWARD LEONARD, JR.
Memorial United Methodist Church.
Rules

Rules were made to be broken - a silly statement we often hear repeated.

Think about the rules we learn and see if that holds true. Early in life we are taught rules of health. The rules are that we need regular rest and sleep to restore mind and body. We need a good diet for growth and health. We need exercise to develop muscles and the heart to supply blood to all the body. When we ignore these or other rules we find that eventually the body and mind suffer. Unless we want bad health and physical troubles, the rules for good health were not made to be broken.

The rules of the road are easy to understand. Signs indicate what good drivers are to do at appropriate places: stop or yield right-of-way at intersections, speed limits for different areas, warnings for railroad crossings. The rules of the road concern what side of the road to drive on, when you can pass, and so on. Rules of the road also call for courtesy. Break the rules very often and you increase the chances of a wreck or injury. Surely the rules for safe, lawful driving were not made just to be broken.

The Christian faith has rules for faithful living also. The Word of God repeatedly comes through the Bible that obedience to God's rules brings life and blessing. Jeremiah says from God: "Obey my voice, and I will be your God, and you shall be my people; and walk in all the way that I command you, that it may be well with you." (Jeremiah 7:23) Jesus said he came, not to abolish but to fulfill the Law.

The freedom in truth Christ brings to us is not to live without rules. The freedom in truth Christ brings is to live in the Spirit of the rules.

The Ten Commandments were not rules made to be broken. They are rules made to govern our lives in relation to God and to each other. We break those rules only at the risk of breaking ourselves and causing suffering for others. We live by those rules and we abide in the promise of God that we shall be his people and enjoy an abundant life free of fear and guilt. Keeping the rules of the Ten Commandments and Jesus' Sermon on the Mount can save us a lot of heartache, headache, injustice, violence and sin in our day.

THESE SECOND GRADE STUDENTS from Mrs. Winnie Agee's class have the costumes and background materials all packed and are ready to head out to present a play on WSET-TV on Monday, June 15. The play, "Defeat of the Dump Monster" is a dramatization through which the students hope to create an awareness of the importance of recycling used and thrown-away items. The play will be aired on METRO at 10:30 A.M. Be sure to watch these stars in their debut.

Kids visit Wilbun's

By KIM FULLER

On May 20, Mrs. Humphries and her 5th grade class took a field trip to Wilbun's and to the Extension Office. Mrs. Shirley Walton accompanied the class.

At Wilbun's each student completed a worksheet on nutrition. Each of us pretended to have five dollars to spend on nutritional snacks. Each snack had to be classified as to food group. The employees at Wilbun's were very friendly and helpful.

After Wilbun's we went to the Extension Office. Mrs. Walton demonstrated the need for nutritional snacks. She discussed the different types of bread. She showed everyone how to make homemade babyfood.

Everyone enjoyed the trip very much. We appreciate the help of everyone involved in making the trip possible.

Catholic Church designated

Our Lady of Peace Roman Catholic Church has been designated as a mission of St. Victoria's Church in Hurt, Va., effective June 5; Father Albert Pereira is the pastor.

Mass will be held at 12 noon Sunday, June 14 at the Oakville School on Highway 26.

Beginning on June 21 Mass will be held at 11:30 a.m. each Sunday.

Choir practice will be at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, June 10 at the home of Mrs. Pat Prgeniosio on highway 26.

Vacation Bible School, in conjunction with St. Anne's Episcopal Church will be held June 15 through June 19 from 9 a.m. until 12 noon at Rose Hall. Mrs. Marie Jones and Mrs. Debbie Powell are co-directors.

McClary promoted

Coast Guard Quartermaster 3rd Class Paul A. McClary, son of Ann C. and James E. McClary Jr. of Route 4, Box 35A. Appomattox, Va., and whose wife, Doris, is the daughter of Thelma Hughes of Route 1, Box 86, also of Appomattox, has been promoted to his present rank while serving aboard the Coast Guard cutter Reliance, homeported in Yorktown, Va.

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Letter

Editor:

Eleven liberal House members recently asked the U.S. District Court in the District of Columbia to order President Ronald Reagan, Secretary of State Alexander Haig and Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger to "immediately withdraw all United States armed forces, weapons, military equipment and aid from El Salvador and prohibit any further aid of any nature." The best that can be said about those congressmen is that they are blind to realities. Persons with closed minds fail to realize that without American military aid the non-communist government of El Salvador cannot cope with Marxist-Leninist guerrillas who are extraordinarily well-armed by the dictators of Nicaragua, Cuba and Vietnam.

Since those 11 legislators do not understand such elementary legal concepts as the one that the secretary of state cannot give any orders to the U. S. armed forces, their lack of knowledge of conditions in El Salvador and the nature of communist aggression cannot surprise informed persons.

They fail to see that there are millions of Americans who realize that it was a shame that Congress would not be allowed to win the Vietnam War by eliminating the military bases of the enemy. As the result of this failure, the communist authorities in Cambodia committed mass murder of millions of ordinary men.

Since El Salvador is in the backyard of the United States, Americans cannot afford to tolerate a communist dictatorship and mass murders in this Latin American country.

Let us hope that concerned Americans will do their best to suport the president's military assistance to the government of El Salvador and to retire those 11 congressmen in the 1982 election.

Sincerely yours,
Dr. Alexander Y. Berkis

SISTERS LESLEY ANN SPROAT AND DIANE JUDKINS, Mormon Missionaries.

Morman Church

Missionaries arrive

Sister Diane Judkins of Salt Lake City, Utah, and Sister Lesley Ann Sproat of Fortuna, Cal., moved to Concord recently, to reside in the area and to do missionary work for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormon).

They work under the direction of the Virginia Roanoke Mission in Roanoke, Va., where President H. Gill Hilton and his wife, Colleen K. Hilton and six of their children reside. The Hilton family work closely with Judkins and Sproat and about 200 other missionaries, mostly in their early 20's, serving Virginia, parts of West Virginia, and North Carlina. The Mormon Church has more than 30,000 missionaries serving in similar capacities throughout the world.

"We want to share a religious message with the people and tell them about the truths we represent," say the women. "Our message is different from the message of any other Christian Church," they continue.

In order to tell people this message, about 9,000 young men and women in the Mormon Church volunteer each year to leave their schooling or work for a period of two years, and devote their full time to the job. Like all workers in the church, the girls are not reimbursed by the church for their services, but are entirely self-supporting. When their service is concluded, they will return to college, military service, or other chosen vocations.

The church in this area is located on Melinda Drive, off of Wards Ferry Road in Lynchburg.

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Four on JMU list

Four local students have been named to the Dean's List at James Madison University for the Spring Semester, according to a release from the college.

Teresa Cyrus, Marie Fraley, Pam Guill, and Laurie McClean have all been named to the dean's list at JMU, according to the release.

To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must have a grade-point average of at lease 3.25 on a 4.0 scale and carry a course load of at least 14 hours.

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Baseball team awards are made

Kenny Wayne Burks, with a .509 regular season batting average, 32 RBIs, and seven home runs, received the Appomattox Raiders' "Most Valuable Player" trophy at a special banquet last Wednesday night.

Burks came to bat 52 times during the regular season, scored 20 runs, and collected 27 hits, including the seven homers, a triple, and four doubles, during the regular season.

For his prowess at the plate, Burks also received the trophy for "Best Offensive Player" at the team banquet.

Neal Cole and Keith Mann tied for "Best Defensive Player" honors at the banquet. The Raider Award for team spirit, attitude, etc., went to Bucky Totty.

Besides Burks, five Raiders had batting averages of .300 or better during the regular season, according to the year-end statistics.

Jody Williams had a .417 batting average, Totty hit .364, Cole hit .354, Rodney Bryant hit .342, and Kevin Ferguson hit .314 during the regular season.

Totty collected three doubles and four home runs for 14 RBIs during the regular season; Cole got three doubles, a triple and two home runs for 11 RBIs; John Simmons got two home runs and eight RBIs; Keith Mann got two doubles, a homer and seven RBIs; Mayberry got a double, Ferguson got two doubles and two triples, and Rodney Bryant recorded six triples during the regular season.

In pitching, the Raiders three sophomore whiz kids -- Greg Mayberry, Kevin Mitchell, and Tim Bennett--recorded records of 4-4,4-1 and 4-1, respectively.

Mitchell's earned-run average was 3.00, Mayberry's 3.67 and Bennett's 2.47 during the regular season.

Team totals for the regular season were as follows: .479 at bats, 130 runs, 147 hits, 28 doubles, five triples, 17 home runs, 114 RBIs, 8 sacrifices, 103 strike outs, 74 stolen bases, 43 errors, 52 bases on balls, and a team batting average of .307.

Totty, Mann, Bryant and Simmons led the team offensively in post-season play with batting averages of .353, .333, .313, and .308, respectively.

The team batting average in post-season play was .237, including a double, two triples, and a homer by Bryant, a double and a homer by Totty, and a double and a triple my Mann.

RECEIVING TROPHIES at Wednesday's baseball banquet were [from left] Keith Mann, tie for best defensive player; Bucky Totty, Raide award; Kenny Wayne Burks, best offensive and most valuable player; and Neal Cole, tie for best defensive player.

RECEIVING ENGRAVED baseballs at Wednesday night's banquet were [from left] Greg Mayberry, Tim Bennett, Ricky Harris, and John Simmons. Also receiving an engraved baseball but not shown was Kevin Mitchell.

My Bay Lady wins ribbons in show

My Bay Lady, ridden by Betty Zumbro, ribboned in all eight of the classes entered in her first showing of the year in the Gretna Horse Show, came back strong in her second time out at the Chase City Show. Entered by her Appomattox owner, Col. W. Eugene Bell, in seven classes, she placed in six with results as follows: Afternoon Show - Men's Go As You Please, 2nd place; Owners Up, 4th Place. In both classes she was ridden by W. E. Bell.

Evening Show - Men's Go As You Please, 3rd place; rider W. E. Bell. Owners Up - 3rd place, Same rider. Ladies Go As You Please, 1st place; rider, Mrs. Vickie Martin. Country Pleasure, 5th place; rider, W. E. Bell.

In addition, Black Midnight W. owned by W. E. Bell was ridden by him to 3rd place in the afternoon, Ambling Pleasure and was ribboned 6th in the evening. Men's Go As You Please class with Ricky Garrison as rider.

On June 3, K. C. Paulette and Col. Bell were invited by the 6th grade class of Mrs. Shirley Eye to present a short demonstration on horses. Mr. Paulette demonstrated sacking horse technique using Royal's Minie Nanzon owned by Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Short. Col Bell demonstrated his two Tennessee Walking Horses, My Bay Lady and Black Midnight W.

The forthcoming horse shows this weekend will be held in Mineral and Blackstone. Additional information on the Chase City Horse Show will be provided later.

Babe Ruth League results

Tyrone Abbitt and Mike Ferguson pitched well in a game which was called after four innings due to rain, with a 2-2 tie score in Babe Ruth action last Monday.

Last Tuesday, the Angels defeated the Tigers, and last Wednesday, the Reds downed the Tigers, in Babe Ruth action last week.

Standings at the end of last week were as follows:

Phillies	won 2	lost 0
Angels	won 3	lost 1
Reds	won 1	lost 2
Tigers	won 1	lost 4

Rec. Programs Scheduled

Summer Recreation Programs

Boys & Girls Baseball
DATE: June 22 through July 3
PLACE: Appomattox County High School baseball field
AGES: 6, 7, 8 TIME: 9:00 a.m. until 10:30 a.m. — T Ball
AGES: 9, 10, 11 TIME: 10:30 a.m. until 12 noon—Regular baseball
Fundamentals of baseball will be taught each day. A game will be played each day.
INSTRUCTOR: Coach Howard Clabough

Boys and Girls Basketball
DATE: July through July 17
PLACE: AAppomattox County High School gym
AGES: 6, 7, 8 TIME: 9:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.
AGES: 9, 10, 11 TIME: 10:30 until 12 noon
Fundamentals of basketball will be taught each day. A game will be played each day.
Instructor: Coach Coty Dickerson

Boys & Girls Weight-Training
DATE: : July 20 through July 21
PLACE: Appomattox: Appomattox County HS weight room
AGES: 6, 7, 8 TIME: 9:00 until 10:00 a.m.
AGES: 9, 10, 11 TIME: 10:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
Fundamentals of weight training will be taught each day.

Boys & Girls Recreation for High School Students
DATE: June 22 through July 31
PLACE: Appomattox County High School gym, weight room, tennis courts, and track
AGES: 13-18 TIME: 1 p.m. until 3 p.m. each day except Saturday, Sunday, and holidays
The school and instructors are not responsible for insurance on the students. Each parent must carry insurance on the student. For further information call Coach Bragg at 352-8720 or 352-7146.

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